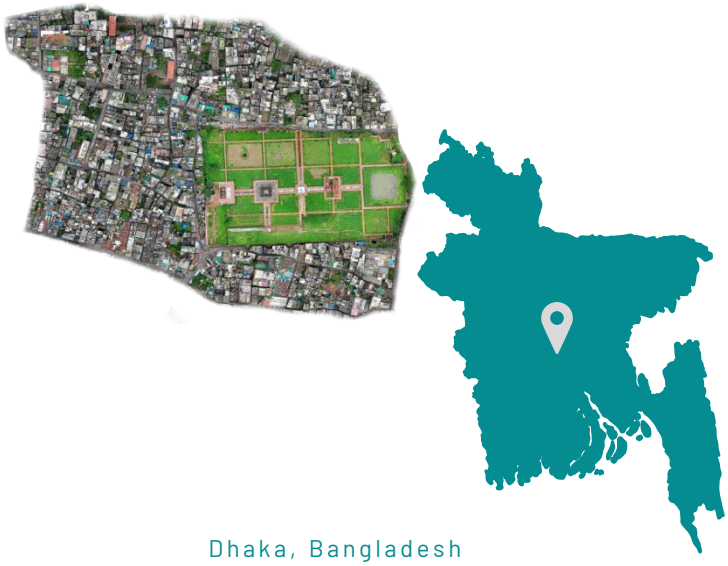
Climate-Resilient Urban Regeneration in Dhaka, Bangladesh

City Climate Finance Gap Fund



Dhaka, Bangladesh

CURRENT CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

Dhaka, one of the most densely populated mega cities globally, faces significant challenges from climate vulnerability, rapid urbanization, limited green spaces, pollution, traffic congestion, and unplanned urban growth. However, remediation and/or redevelopment of abandoned or underused areas like Hazaribagh and Lalbagh can provide social and economic benefits.

The Capital Development Authority (RAJUK) plans to utilize the financial support of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to provide essential climate resilient urban infrastructure and services in the target areas through the Dhaka Urban Regeneration Project.

To complement this project, a study on climate risk assessment and strategy was deployed with the aim of improving residents' quality of life while serving as a model for climate-resilient urban development in Dhaka and beyond, fostering sustainable urban living and environmental preservation.

OBJECTIVE OF THE INTERVENTION

The goal of the Gap Fund's intervention was to develop a climate, environmental, and green action plan, identify key risks and integrate adaptation and mitigation measures.

Dhaka, Bangladesh

THE GAP FUND'S SUPPORT

The intervention included:

1. Policy and literature review that assessed the present scenario with regards to climate change impacts.
2. Stakeholder Engagement Plan, including public community consultations.
3. Baseline surveys for Hazaribagh and Lalbagh on environmental risks, hydrology, geological features, transport, climate risk.
4. Detailed physical feature maps and additional info graphs.
5. Socio-economic survey targeting 300 households in Hazaribagh and Lalbagh.
6. Climate Resilient Green Action Plan (CRGAP) for Hazaribagh and Lalbagh.

Sector

Green Spaces and Urban Infrastructure

Project stage

Prefeasibility

Idea — Implementation

2,765,565 €

Investment Value (early estimate)

274,619

people to benefit by the implementation of CRGAP

20–30%

of surrounding households to benefit from the interventions involving green spaces

50–70%

of area population to benefit from the climate adaptation measures (e.g. drainage systems and flood control)

THE INTERVENTION AT A GLANCE

The CRGAP promotes sustainability and enhances climate resilience. Key initiatives include expanding green spaces to improve air quality, reduce heat islands, and manage stormwater, alongside promoting green buildings with energy-efficient designs. The plan integrates mixed land use to reduce car dependency and emissions, enhances pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, and improves drainage and flood management. It also emphasizes sustainable transportation, water management, and urban temperature reduction through green spaces and permeable surfaces.

CO-BENEFITS OF THE INTERVENTION

- Reduced Urban Heat Island Effect
- Flood Risk Reduction
- Improved Public Health
- Increased Property Values
- Enhanced Social Cohesion
- Improved Quality of Life
- Make the community more resilient to climate change impacts
- Enhance carbon sequestration through green spaces
- Job Creation

FINANCIAL PATHWAYS

RAJUK intends to use the outcomes of the study to mobilize financing from a Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) for follow-up technical assistance and feasibility studies to implement the Climate Resilient Gap Action Plan (CRGAP). This support will help strengthen project design and assess financial viability, with long-term benefits such as flood risk mitigation, energy-efficient infrastructure, and green spaces that foster sustainable urban living and attract further investment.

LESSONS LEARNED AND CHALLENGES

The CRGAP highlighted the importance of creating urban green spaces and integrating community feedback to meet local needs. Despite challenges like space constraints and unplanned urbanization, solutions such as pocket parks and vertical greenery are effective. The assignment demonstrated robust data collection, strong technical expertise, and effective stakeholder engagement, but faced gaps in data analysis and limited expertise in brownfield redevelopment.

SCALE-UP POTENTIAL

The CRGAP has potential to be expanded to other areas in Dhaka and beyond. It focuses on adaptable infrastructure, sustainable landscaping, and community-driven green developments, making it a flexible model for different local needs. Solutions like pocket parks, vertical gardens, and improved drainage systems address environmental issues and build urban resilience. Success in Hazaribagh and Lalbagh can guide similar areas by involving stakeholders, securing adaptable funding, and creating green spaces, promoting sustainable urban living.

NEXT STEPS

- Conduct a comprehensive feasibility study
- Strengthen engagement with key stakeholders
- Develop a Detailed Action Plan
- Pilot Project Implementation to test and refine the proposed interventions
- Invest in capacity development and training for local government officials, community leaders, and project implementers
- Establish a strong monitoring and evaluation framework

TA PARTNER AND BENEFICIARIES

TA IMPLEMENTED BY

TROYEE associates

THE GAP FUND IN A NUTSHELL

Since its launch in 2020, the City Climate Finance Gap Fund provides technical assistance to cities in low- and middle-income countries to support the early preparation of climate-smart infrastructure projects, including energy, transport, waste, water, wastewater and nature-based solutions (NbS).

Find more about the City Climate Finance Gap Fund on: City Climate Finance Gap Fund

For additional information, please contact:
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Summary of the Climate Resilient Urban Regeneration in Dhaka, Bangladesh

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy
IKI INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE INITIATIVE
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Biodiversity
European Investment Bank
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
THE WORLD BANK IBRD • IDA | WORLD BANK GROUP